

## MINUTES

OF THE

## Synod of Philadelphia

AT THEIR SESSIONS

HELD IN

LEWISTOWN, Pa.

OCTOBER, 1864.

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PRINTED BY ALFRED MARTIEN, PHILADELPHIA.

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# MINUTES.

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LEWISTOWN, Pa., *October 20, 1864.*

The Synod of Philadelphia met agreeably to adjournment in the First Presbyterian Church, at Lewistown, Pa., on Thursday, October 20th, 1864, at 7 o'clock, P. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. John M. Dickey, D. D., the Moderator, from Nehemiah ii. 18, "And they said, Let us arise up and build "

After sermon, the Synod was constituted by prayer.

The following members were in attendance during the sessions:

## *Presbytery of Philadelphia.*

MINISTERS.—George Junkin, D. D., Jared L. Elliott, William P. Breed, D. D., Charles H. Ewing, Matthew B. Grier, James M. Crowell, Alexander W. Sproull, Willard M. Rice, William McElwee, James H. Baird, R. B. Westbrook, D. D.

RULING ELDERS.—John L. Entwistle, Chester; Robert Scott, Fourth Church, Philadelphia.

MINISTERS ABSENT.—William M. Engles, D. D., Joseph H. Jones, D. D., James Smith, H. A. Boardman, D. D., Alexander Heberton, Wm. Blackwood, D. D., Wm. E. Schenck, D. D., James W. Dale, David W. Eakins, George Morton, F. Reck Harbaugh, Anderson O. Forbes, Robert Gamble, Thomas E. Wall, Jonathan C. Gibbs, Silian Bonhomme, Joseph McMurray, Nathaniel W. Conkling, Samuel P. Herron, John Moore, David A. Cunnnigham, Thomas McCauley, Henry C. Cameron, Bernard Steinthal, William E. Boardman, Robert Irvine, John Moore.

## *Central Presbytery of Philadelphia.*

MINISTERS.—Daniel Gaston, Alfred Nevin, D. D., William R. Work, Jonathan Edwards, D. D., David Kennedy, Morris C. Sutphen, J. Addison Henry, John Ewing.

RULING ELDERS.—F. W. Hastings, Princeton Church; George C. Napheys, Central Church, Philadelphia; William A. Piper, North Church, Philadelphia.

MINISTERS ABSENT.—James M. Olmstead, D. D., James R. Johnston, Shepherd K. Kollock, D.D., William M. Cornell, D.D., G. W. Musgrave, D.D., E. D. Saunders, D.D., James Clark, D.D., G. W. McPhail, D. D., William O. Johnstone, L. H. Christian, D. D., A. W. Milby, Charles W. Shields, D. D., James G. Shinn, T. M. Cunningham, James A. Devine, E. Bailey Smith, Robert M. Patterson, Joseph W. Porter, Henry F. Lee, George Locker, Alexander M. Jelly, R. W. Henry, D. D., John Moore.

*Second Presbytery of Philadelphia.*

MINISTERS.—S. M. Andrews, D. D., Jacob Belville, Thomas Murphy, Jesse B. Davis, S. J. Milliken, A. M. Woods, Alfred Taylor, Alfred H. Kellogg, John L. Withrow, James B. Kennedy, W. C. Cattell, D. D.

RULING ELDER.—J. W. Mann, Doylestown and Deep Run Church.

MINISTERS ABSENT.—William R. Gould, Job F. Halsey, D.D., John McCluskey, D. D., John Gray, D. D., Leslie Irwin, Thos. B. Bradford, Henry S. Rodenbaugh, James R. Eckerd, D. D., Roger Owen, Ashbel G. Harned, J. H. M. Knox, D. D., A. Hartpence, Joseph Beggs, William B. Stewart, Robert Cruikshank, Samuel Harrison, George J. Mings, H. B. Townsend, James Martin, S. Fulton, John C. Thompson.

*Presbytery of Newcastle.*

MINISTERS.—Alexander G. Morrison, John M. Dickey, D. D., John B. Spottswood, D. D., Samuel A. Gayley, Alexander Reed, Justus T. Umsted, William R. Bingham, Matthew Newkirk, John Henry Johns, William H. Cooke, Sterling M. Galt.

RULING ELDERS.—Andrew Buchanan, Forks of Brandywine; David Scott, Coatesville; Joseph Wiley, Upper Octorara; William Wilson, Fagg's Manor; James M. Bracken, Lower Brandywine; D. C. Carhart, Rock and Zion; Jefferson Ramsey, Port Deposit.

MINISTERS ABSENT.—J. N. C. Grier, D. D., Thomas Love, Robert P. Dubois, Stephen R. Wynkoop, Abraham De Witt, J. Grier Ralston, James R. Vallandigham, James Otterson, John W. Martin, James McIntyre, John C. Thompson, David R. Moore, J. William Edie, John S. Gilmor, William F. P. Noble, Frank B. Hodge, Charles D. Kellogg, Hugh B. Scott.

*Presbytery of Donegal.*

MINISTERS.—John Farquhar, Elijah Wilson, James Smith, John C. Thom, John B. Kugler, Robert Alexander, John Elliott, Robert A. Brown.

RULING ELDERS.—J. D. Wiley, Slateville Church; Samuel B. Heise, Columbia Church.

**MINISTERS ABSENT**—William Finney, Samuel Parke, Lindley C. Rutter, John Wallace, William W. Latta, D. D., Philip J. Timlow, M. D., Samuel Dickey, Thomas M. Crawford, John J. Lane, Joseph M. Rittenhouse, William A. Rankin, Walter Powell, Calvin W. Stewart, John Y. Cowhick, Joseph D. Smith, John L. Merrill, John Leaman, Solomon McNair.

*Presbytery of Huntingdon.*

**MINISTERS**.—Samuel Hill, Matthew Allison, William J. Gibson, D. D., Andrew Jardine, David Sterrett, Samuel H. McDonald, Moses Floyd, George Elliott, Samuel Lawrence, J. J. Hamilton, G. W. Shaiffer, D. D. Clarke, D. D., Samuel T. Lowrie, George W. Zahnizer, Samuel M. Moore, G. Van Artsdalen, J. H. Barnard, J. B. Strain, R. B. Moore, J. A. Patterson, John P. Clarke, Orr Lawson, O. O. McLean, Oscar A. Hills, William B. McKee, James C. Mahon, D. S. Banks, R. M. Wallace, D. J. Beale, William Prideaux, John P. Clarke.

**RULING ELDERS**.—John Robinson, Mifflintown and Lost Creek; Robert Huey, Shaver's Creek; William Kerr, Sinking and Spring Creek; H. L. Close, E. Kishacoquillas; James Patterson, Lower Tuscarora; Daniel Teague, Shirleysburg; David Jenkins, Waynesburg and Newton Hamilton; A. A. Criswell, Cottage; John Scott, Huntingdon; John Porter, Alexandria; William Huey, Shade Gap and Upper Tuscarora; J. O. Campbell, W. Kishacoquillas; James B. Johnston, Lick Run; I. D. Ray, Hollidaysburg, Hugh Lorimore, Pine Grove; D. W. Woods, Lewistown; Adam Rankin, Spruce Creek; John J. Thompson, Bald Eagle; James L. Gwinn, Altoona.

**MINISTERS ABSENT**.—James Linn, D. D., Britton E. Collins, Robert Hamill, Thomas Stevenson, John Moore, John M. Galloway, N. S. Conklin, J. W. White, James Williamson, William Adam, D. H. Barron, W. A. Hooper, William M. Burchfield, J. A. McGin'ey, William C. Smith, J. H. Holloway, William J. Murphy, W. O. Wright, N. G. White, W. A. Fleming.

*Presbytery of Northumberland.*

**MINISTERS**.—Daniel M. Barber, John P. Hudson, Isaac Grier, D. D., Poineas B. Marr, David J. Waller, J. N. Boyd, H. S. Dickson, D. D., W. G. E. Agnew, Joseph Stevens, William Simonton, James D. Reardon, Lorenzo Westcott, Abraham D. Hawn.

**RULING ELDERS**.—Robert Candor, Milton; L. Howard, Buffalo; John Robison, Bloomsburg; Thomas Howard, Lewisburg; Andrew White, Bald Eagle and Nittany; John Hamilton, Jersey Shore; Thomas Bridgens, Great Island; Fleming Nesbit, Chillisquaque and Mooresburg.

**MINISTERS ABSENT**.—John H. Grier, James C. Watson, D. D., David Hull, J. W. E. Ker, John Thomas, Joseph Nesbitt,

Wm. Life, Charles J. Collins, C. H. Park, Robert C. Bryson, Nathaniel Spear, Josias H. Young.

*Presbytery of Shanghai.*

MINISTERS ABSENT.—J. N. Danforth, Charles R. Mills, J. N. Farnham.

The Rev. David Clarke, D. D., was elected Moderator.

The Rev. J. Addison Henry was elected Reading Clerk.

The Rev. J. B. Davis was elected Recording Clerk.

The hours for the meeting and adjournment of Synod were fixed as follows:

Meet in the morning at 9 o'clock, adjourn at 12 o'clock, M. Meet at 2 o'clock, P. M., adjourn at 5 o'clock, P. M. Meet again at 7 o'clock, P. M.

After prayer, Synod adjourned until Friday morning at nine o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING, *October 21.*

Synod met agreeably to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The roll was called.

The Minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The Rev. Lyman Coloman, D. D., of the Congregational Association of Connecticut, and the Rev. J. C. Lowrie, D. D., of the Synod of New York, being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

*Resolved*, That Synod will hear the Rev. Dr. Lowrie in reference to the Boards of the Church at 7 o'clock this evening.

The Moderator announced the Standing Committees as follows:

*On Bills and Overtures*.—Ministers, J. M. Dickey, D. D., Isaac Grier, D. D., J. M. Crowell, J. Addison Henry, A. M. Woods, John Elliott, Joseph Patterson. *Ruling Elders*, Robert Scott, F. W. Hastings, D. C. Carhart, J. D. Wiley, John Scott, Esq.

*Judicial Committee*.—Ministers, Wm. P. Breed, D. D., M. C. Sutphen, Thos. Murphy, John Farquhar, S. T. Lowrie, J. P. Hudson. *Ruling Elders*, Mr. J. G. Mann, Mr. David Scott, Mr. Samuel B. Heise, Mr. John Porter.

*On Devotional Exercises*.—Ministers, O. O. McLean, S. J. Milliken. *Ruling Elder*, Wm. A. Piper.

*On Minutes of General Assembly*.—Ministers, J. Bellville, O. Lawson, M. Newkirk. *Ruling Elders*, Mr. Joseph Wiley, Mr. Thos. Howard.

*On the Narrative of 1865*.—Ministers, Joseph Stevens, David Sterrett. *Ruling Elders*, Mr. Wm. Kerr, Mr. Rob't Candor.

*On Finance and Treasurer's Accounts—Ruling Elders,* John Scott, Esq., Mr. David Jenkins, Mr. John Hamilton.

*On Leave of Absence—Ministers,* Wm. Simonton, Matthew Allison. *Ruling Elders,* Mr. A. A. Creswell, Mr. F. Nesbit.

*On Lafayette College—Ministers,* A. Taylor, J. C. Thom, J. M. Crowell, Wm. R. Bingham. *Ruling Elder,* Wm. A. Piper.

*To Print and Distribute the Minutes—Ministers,* Wm. R. Work, J. B. Davis. *Ruling Elder,* Rob't Scott, with the Stated Clerk.

Rev. J. T. McMurray and Rev. S. Barnes, of the East Baltimore Conference of the M. E. Church; Rev. H. R. Fleck, of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Central Penn'a.; Rev. H. G. Finney and Rev. J. H. Clark, of the Synod of Baltimore; Rev. Mr. Gray, of the Synod of Alleghany, and the Rev. J. Waugh, of the Synod of Wheeling, being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Board of Trustees of Lafayette College, and the Committee of Synod to visit the College, presented reports, which were referred to the standing Committee on Lafayette College, and the report of that Committee was made the order of the day for Saturday morning, at half past nine o'clock.

A communication from George H. Stuart, Esq., Chairman of the U. S. Christian Commission, was read.

*Resolved,* That the consideration of the claims of the U. S. Christian Commission be the order of the day for Saturday morning, at 10½ o'clock.

A paper on the subject of Church Union, presented by the Rev. Dr. Nevin, was read, and the consideration of it was made the order of the day for 3 o'clock, P. M.

In the absence of the Treasurer of Synod, the Treasurer's report was presented by the Rev. J. M. Crowell, who was appointed Treasurer, *pro tem.* The report was referred to the Committee on Treasurer's Accounts.

The next stated meeting of Synod was appointed to be held in the First Presbyterian Church in Lewisburg, Union Co., Pa., on Thursday, Oct. 19th, 1865, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

The Committee on Army and Navy Chaplains presented a report, which was accepted and adopted. The Committee was continued and ordered to report next year. Mathew Newkirk, Esq., was appointed Chairman of the Committee.

*Report of the Committee on Army and Navy Chaplains.*

The Committee appointed at the last session of Synod, on Army and Navy Chaplains, report

That many circumstances have united to prevent the Committee from rendering much service in respect to the object of



their appointment, prominent among which is the well ascertained fact of the extraordinary and successful efforts of the Christian Commission in furnishing men and means to supply the spiritual and personal wants of our gallant soldiers. During the past year our armies have been actively employed, for the most part, in distant fields. Many of the Pennsylvania regiments were so much reduced in numbers, that the usual supply of a Chaplain for each regiment was deemed inexpedient. In this emergency the agents and employees of the Christian Commission were scattered over the whole field of our Army operations, besides which they labored in the hospitals and in the prisons. They were thus in the front as well as in the rear. The liberal benefactions of our Churches, and the prayers of our people, were evoked in aid of this good work, in response to the recommendation of this Synod at its late Session; and many of our clergymen and laymen were employed in this Christian and benevolent enterprise.

A Sub-committee of our number was appointed to take into consideration the propriety of announcing the existence of this Committee, but it was deemed inexpedient to make this announcement at this time; and it was thought best, under the present circumstances, not to make any public efforts, or take active means to supply regiments with Chaplains, as such efforts might be considered as somewhat interfering with the prosperity and usefulness of the Commission, to which we have referred, if not, indeed, in some respects, as hostile to it, by tending to diminish the material aid which our churches and people were giving to that eminently Christian and benevolent association.

Under the limited notice which was given of the existence and object of this Committee, there were but two or three Clergymen who signified their willingness to serve as Chaplains. In view of facts, which were brought to the notice of the last Synod, and have been elsewhere stated, your Committee were of opinion that none but such as were *well adapted* to such service should receive their recommendation. The Committee united in recommending the appointment of an additional Chaplain for one of the largest Army Hospitals in this State, and one of their number repaired to Washington, in furtherance of the appointment, which was promptly made by the appropriate Department of the Government.

In concluding this brief report, the Committee beg leave to state that we are of opinion that a similar Committee for the ensuing year should be constituted and appointed. It will afford a central point, where information on this subject may be obtained, and to which applications may be referred; and it will gradually have the effect, with other appropriate means, which the individual members of the Synod can put forth, of securing to our beloved Zion a proper representation in the Chaplaincies of the Army and Navy of the United States, in



the Hospitals, and in the National Schools belonging to these branches of the public service.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES ROSS SNOWDEN,  
M. NEWKIRK,  
JOHN M. HARPER,  
J. EDWARDS,  
A. NEVIN,  
E. D. SAUNDERS.

The Committee on the debt of the Presbytery of Philadelphia presented a report, which was accepted and placed upon the docket.

Synod adjourned after prayer by the Rev. David Sterrett.

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON, 2 o'clock.

Synod met, and was opened with prayer by Dr. Edwards.

Dr. Breed, from the Judicial Committee, reported Judicial Case No. 1, which was a complaint by the Rev. George Junkin, D. D., against the Presbytery of Philadelphia for accepting "certificates of standing and scholarship equivalent to a diploma from an American College, in place of an examination in Latin and Greek, and the arts and sciences."

The Committee recommended that the Synod proceed to take up and issue the case, and the recommendation was adopted.

The Moderator announced from the chair that the Synod was about to pass to the consideration of Judicial business, and enjoined upon the members to recollect and regard their high character as judges of a Court of Jesus Christ, and the solemn duty in which they were about to act.

The complaint of Dr. Junkin was read.

The records of the inferior judicatory touching the case were read.

The complainant was then heard in part.

The order of the day for 3 o'clock, which was the paper presented by Dr. Nevin upon the subject of Church Union, was taken up.

Pending the discussion on the motion to adopt, Synod adjourned until seven o'clock, after prayer by the Rev. Mr. Farquhar.

#### FRIDAY EVENING, 7 o'clock.

Synod met, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. O. A. Hills.

The Rev. J. H. Mathers, of the Synod of Wisconsin, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Devotional Exercises, it was

*Resolved*, That the last half hour of each session be spent in devotional exercises.

The Moderator announced Committees upon Presbyterian Records as follows:

*Of the Presbytery of Philadelphia—Ministers*, D. J. Waller, George W. Zahnizer. *Ruling Elders*, D. W. Woods, Esq., Andrew White.

*Of the Central Presbytery—Ministers*, Dr. Gibson, P. B. Marr. *Ruling Elders*, Hugh Lorimore, James Patterson.

*Of the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia—Ministers*, John Farquhar, J. H. Barnard. *Ruling Elders*, James L. Gwin, Esq., H. L. Close.

*Of the Presbytery of Newcastle—Ministers*, Dr. Nevin, G. Van Artsdalen. *Ruling Elders*, Daniel Teague, Robert Huey.

*Of the Presbytery of Donegal—Ministers*, Daniel Gaston, J. B. Strain. *Ruling Elders*, John Robinson, Adam Rankin.

*Of the Presbytery of Northumberland—Ministers*, O. A. Hills, Dr. Spottswood. *Ruling Elders*, J. O. Campbell, J. D. Wiley.

*Of the Presbytery of Huntingdon—Ministers*, Dr. Edwards, Thomas Murphy. *Ruling Elders*, George C. Napheys, J. G. Mann.

The Rev. Dr. Patterson, of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

In accordance with the resolution adopted at the morning session, the Rev. Dr. Lowrie was heard in behalf of the Boards of the Church. The importance of increased diligence and fidelity in prosecuting the work of Missions, both at home and abroad, was urged by many members of Synod.

A special collection for the Board of Foreign Missions was ordered and taken up, amounting to \$119 73.

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Devotional Exercises, members of Synod were appointed to supply the pulpits of the Lutheran and Methodist Episcopal churches.

After prayer by the Rev. Dr. Patterson, Synod adjourned until Saturday morning at 9 o'clock.

#### SATURDAY MORNING, October 22.

Synod met, and was opened with prayer by the Moderator.

The minutes of Friday's sessions were read and approved.

The Rev. S. F. Colt, of the Synod of New Jersey, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

It was made the third order of the day to hear the Rev. S. F. Colt, in reference to the Religious Education of Freedmen.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported leave of absence given to the Rev. John Ewing and ruling elder Daniel Teague.

The Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts, reported that it found them correct, and called the attention of Synod to the statements of the Treasurer concerning the condition of the Synodical Fund, the liabilities, present means, estimate of expenses for the current year, and the assessments of the several Presbyteries.

The report was adopted.

Treasurer's statement of the condition of Synodical Fund:

*Liabilities.*

Am't due J. R. Snowden, Treasurer, . . . . .	\$4 66
“ “ W. S. & Alfred Martien, printing Minutes of 1863, . . . . .	60 00
Am't due Rev. Dr. Andrews, for postage and inci- dentals, . . . . .	5 49

Present liabilities, \$70 15 -

*Present Means.*

Assessments now due:

Second Presbytery of Philadelphia, 1863, . . . . .	\$22 54
Presbytery of Huntingdon, 1862, . . . . .	11 67
“ “ “ “ 1863, . . . . .	11 00

Amount now due, \$45 21

Present deficit, \$24 94

*Estimate of amount required to meet deficit, and pay expenses of 1864.*

Deficit, as above stated, . . . . .	\$24 94
Salary of Stated Clerk, incidentals, and postage, . . . . .	35 00
Printing Minutes, 1864, . . . . .	60 00
Sexton at Lewistown, . . . . .	6 00

Amount required, \$125 94

*Assessments recommended for the current year:*

Presbytery of Philadelphia, . . . . .	\$32 00
Central Presbytery of Philadelphia, . . . . .	32 00
Second “ “ “ “ . . . . .	21 00
Presbytery of New Castle, . . . . .	10 50
“ “ Donegal, . . . . .	10 50
“ “ Huntingdon, . . . . .	10 00
“ “ Northumberland, . . . . .	10 00

\$126 00

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES ROSS SNOWDEN,

*Treasurer.*

October 20, 1864.

The Judicial Committee reported Judicial Case No. 2, which was the appeal of the Rev. Dr. Westbrook from the decision of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, and recommended that it be taken up in the order prescribed in the Book of Discipline.

The report was adopted.

The order of the day for 9½ o'clock was taken up. The Committee on Lafayette College presented a report, which was accepted, and President Cattell and others were heard in behalf of the College. The report of the Committee was adopted, and is as follows:

*Report on Lafayette College.*

The Committee on Lafayette College would respectfully report that they have given the whole subject special and prayerful attention, having had before them not only the very complete reports of the Trustees and of the Visitors appointed by Synod, but the various record-books of the College; and also having conferred freely and fully with the President and the Treasurer.

We desire to state expressly that we felt our appointment by Synod to be a solemn trust, and availing ourselves diligently of all these sources of information, we pursued our inquiries and investigations until each member of the Committee was deeply impressed with the conviction that this College is deserving, as far as such language is admissible of any human Institution, of UNQUALIFIED COMMENDATION. We commend unreservedly its course of instruction, and can speak of its able, learned, and self-denying Faculty only in terms of respect and gratitude.

During the last year, the College has, for the first time, we believe, in its Synodical history, met all the expenses of the year from its current income. Besides this, the floating debt of \$3000 has been provided for, and over \$30,000 added to its permanent funds. We cannot but congratulate President Cattell upon so auspicious a close of the first year of his administration.

But, however gratifying the fact that the College is now self-sustaining, the Committee feels bound to state that this result is obtained by practising the most rigid and painful economy. That a College of high order, under the patronage of this venerable and mother Synod of the Presbyterian Church, should be unable to pay more than \$4900 to all the instructors it employs, is scarcely credible. Yet this is the sum total of the salaries now paid to the nine gentlemen who have been selected by Synod for the distinguished positions they occupy, on account of their well-known talents and learning. We are persuaded the Church, when apprized of the fact, will not suffer such a state of things to continue.

Without, however, pursuing this subject further, your Committee would respectfully propose the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, 1. That Synod expresses its sense of the great importance of Lafayette College, as an arm of the Church in Christian education, and that, in the powerful work of grace with which it was favored last year, calling for our devout